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PRESS RELEASE

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Former Nursing Home Caregiver Sentenced for Assaulting a Resident

Washington, D.C. - United States Attorney Kenneth L. Wainstein and District of Columbia Inspector General Charles J. Willoughby announced today that Estherlynn Taylor, 35, of Laurel, Maryland, was found guilty of simple assault upon a nursing home resident on January 27, 2006, by Associate Judge Zinora Mitchell-Rankin. Taylor was a caregiver at a nursing home in Washington, DC and was charged with roughly handling and striking the head of a 94-year old resident in her care.

Taylor was sentenced to the maximum 180 days, suspended as to all but 20 days, 2 years of supervised probation, \$500 fine, and ordered not to work as a caregiver with vulnerable adults until receiving certification by a professional that she does not pose a danger to vulnerable adults.

In announcing the conviction and sentence, United States Attorney Wainstein and Inspector General Willoughby praised the work of Special Agent Arkieva Smith of the OIG Medicaid Fraud Control Unit (MFCU) for her investigation of the assault. Mr. Wainstein and Mr. Willoughby also commended the work of Assistant United States Attorney Brandi King Garcia and Dangkhoa Nguyen of the MFCU, who jointly prosecuted the case.